

**Proclamation of Recognition**  
**THE TEXAS TREASURE AWARD**

**WHEREAS;** The Texas Treasure Award pays tribute to our state's well-established businesses and their exceptional historical contributions to communities across Texas; and

**WHEREAS,** Swindle's Jewelry was founded by Grady "Big Red" and Gracie "Gus" Swindle in Dublin, Texas and has been a family owned and operated jewelry store since 1942; and

**WHEREAS,** During WWII, Grady and Gracie founded a watchmaking school in the back of their store in Dublin to provide disabled veterans returning home from war an opportunity to learn the trade; and

**WHEREAS,** In the 1950s Swindle's Jewelry was mentioned in *Ripley's Believe It or Not* for their unusual name; and

**WHEREAS,** In the early 1980s Swindle's Jewelry became famous for originating the coin class rings designed by Pinkie Swindle for Tarleton State University; and

**WHEREAS,** For over 80 years, our community has trusted this business with the most important days of their lives; and

**WHEREAS,** three generations of the Swindle family have served their customers; and

**WHEREAS,** Brit Van Zandt the great-grandson of the original owners, is now cultivating lasting business relationships with the great-grandchildren of many of the original Swindle's Jewelry customers;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Doug Svien, Mayor of the City of Stephenville, do hereby issue this Proclamation of Recognition to Swindle's Jewelry in recognition of

**THE TEXAS TREASURE AWARD**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereby set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of Stephenville, Texas, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

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Doug Svien, Mayor